

Amendments to the Claims:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for selectively shadowing only accesses to external storage media connected to a computer, the method comprising: detecting a data access to an external storage medium; and writing a copy of the accessed data to a storage location other than the external storage medium without storing any intermediate copies or fragments thereof on the external storage medium; wherein the detecting step comprises intercepting an I/O request from the computer to an external storage media drive in which the external storage media is inserted.

2. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the access is a write operation.

3. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the access is a read operation.

4. (Canceled)

5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the I/O request is one of the group consisting of a file open or creation request, a write request, a file close request, a file system control request and a read request.

6. (Previously presented) The method of claim 5 further comprising: providing a proxy handler for the I/O request; and executing the proxy handler, in response to the detecting step.

7. (Previously presented) The method of claim [4] 1 wherein the computer runs under an operating system and the I/O request is one of the group consisting of IRP_MJ_CREATE, IRP_MJ_WRITE, IRP_MJ_CLOSE, IRP_MJ_FILE_SYSTEM_CONTROL and IRP_MJ_READ packets.

8. (Previously presented) The method of claim 7 further comprising: providing proxy handlers for the IRP_MJ_CREATE, IRP_MJ_WRITE, IRP_MJ_CLOSE and IRP_MJ_FILE_SYSTEM_CONTROL packets; and executing one of the proxy handlers, in response to the detecting step when the I/O request is a respective packet selected from the group consisting of IRP_MJ_CREATE, IRP_MJ_WRITE, IRP_MJ_CLOSE and IRP_MJ_FILE_SYSTEM_CONTROL packets.

9. (Previously presented) The method of claim 8 further comprising: providing a proxy handlers for the IRP_MJ_READ packet; and executing the proxy handlers for the IRP_MJ_READ packet, in response to the detecting step when the I/O request is an IRP_MJ_READ packet.

10. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the storage location other than the external storage media is a protected storage location.

11. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 further comprising: writing the data to the external storage medium after the step of writing a copy of the data to a storage location other than the external storage medium.

12. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 further comprising: attaching to one or more file systems connected to an external storage media drive in which the external storage medium is inserted; and wherein the detecting step comprises intercepting I/O requests to the one or more file systems.

13. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the external storage medium is selected from the group consisting of a floppy disk; a CD, a removable hard disk drive, and a zip disk drive.

14. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 further comprising: collecting the copy into a database where similar copies are collected; and querying the database.

15. (Previously Presented) A method for selectively shadowing only accesses to external storage media connected to a computer, the method comprising:

- detecting a data access to an external storage medium;
- writing a copy of the accessed data to a storage location other than the external storage medium;
- collecting the copy into a database where similar copies are collected; and
- querying the database;

wherein the detecting step comprises intercepting an I/O request from the computer to an external storage media drive in which the external storage media is inserted;

wherein the database comprises records, each record comprising the copied data, a file name associated with the data, an identification of who initiated the data access, a station ID, and when the access was made.

16. (Previously presented) The method of claim 14 wherein the computer is connected to a computer network, and the detecting and copying steps are performed at the computer, and the collecting and querying steps are performed at another computer on the network.

17. (Previously presented) The method of claim 14 wherein the collecting and querying steps are performed by a user with administrator privileges.

18. (Currently Amended) A computer readable storage medium on which is embedded computer software, the software performing a method, the method comprising: detecting a data access to an external storage medium; and writing a copy of the accessed data to a storage location other than the external storage medium without storing any intermediate copies or fragments thereof on the external storage medium; wherein the detecting step comprises intercepting an I/O request from the computer to an external storage media drive in which the external storage media is inserted.

19. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 18 wherein the access is a write operation.

20. (Canceled)

21. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 18 wherein the computer system runs under an operating system and the I/O request is one of the group consisting of IRP_MJ_CREATE, IRP_MJ_WRITE, IRP_MJ_CLOSE, IRP_MJ_FILE_SYSTEM_CONTROL and IRP_MJ_READ packets.

22. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for selectively shadowing only accesses to external storage media connected to a computer, the apparatus comprising: a detector that intercepts I/O requests from the computer to an external storage media drive in which the external storage media is inserted; and a storage, other than the external storage medium, connected to the detector, in which a copy of the accessed data is written without storing any intermediate copies or fragments thereof on the external storage media.

23. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 22 further comprising one or more proxy handlers connected to the detector, wherein the proxy handlers handle certain I/O requests.

24. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 23 wherein the certain I/O requests comprise IRP_MJ_CREATE, IRP_MJ_WRITE, IRP_MJ_CLOSE and IRP_MJ_FILE_SYSTEM_CONTROL packet.

25. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 24 wherein the certain I/O requests further comprise an IRP_MJ_READ packet.

26. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 23 further comprising: a list, connected to at least some of the one or more proxy handlers, in which file identifiers are contained.

27. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 26 wherein the file identifiers are IRP.FsContext values.

28. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 23 further comprising: one or more counters, connected to at least some of the one or more proxy handlers, by which certain file operations are counted.

29. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 23 wherein the computer runs under an operating system, and the one or more proxy handlers are connected to I/O request packet drivers supplied by the operating system.

30. (Canceled)

31. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the external storage medium is selected from the group consisting of a floppy disk; a writable CD, a removable hard disk drive, and a zip disk drive.

32. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 18 wherein the external storage medium is selected from the group consisting of a floppy disk; a writable CD, a removable hard disk drive, and a zip disk drive.

33. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 22 wherein the external storage medium is selected from the group consisting of a floppy disk; a writable CD, a removable hard disk drive, and a zip disk drive.